



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
24 June 2014

Original: English

2014 session

Item 5 (c) of the provisional agenda*

High-level segment: annual ministerial review

**Statement submitted by International Ontopsychology Association,
a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the
Economic and Social Council**

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.



Statement

On 16 February 2014, the International Ontopsychology Association held a symposium in Brazil on the theme of the 2014 session of the Economic and Social Council, with the participation of its Antonio Meneghetti Faculty and the Institute of Ontopsychology of Saint Petersburg State University (Russian Federation). Students, faculty members, civil society groups and private sector representatives participated. The Government of Brazil was represented by an official from the Ministry of Education, state-level education officials and local prefects and municipal authorities.

The representative of the International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions to the United Nations chaired the panel, giving an opening speech in which she described how the Millennium Development Goals had been developed, the stage that they had reached, the new direction leading to the sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda and the partnerships encouraged by the Economic and Social Council through Goal 8.

The Chief of the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch in the Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat described the current state of discussions on the outcome of the 14 years of efforts to achieve the Goals and on the negotiations leading to the post-2015 development agenda. A consensus between nations remained a major challenge.

The representative of United Nations Academic Impact described the role of his entity in promoting education and training on the Goals and on the post-2015 development agenda. Discussions on that agenda were described as a bottom-up exercise that must involve all segments of society, including civil society organizations, academics, the private sector and Governments.

Other panellists addressed the issue of convergence between human rights and the Millennium Declaration and the Goals; the inclusion of humanitarian law in the post-2015 development agenda was considered a priority for the sustainable development goals. A new goal, on access to justice, should be added. A panellist gave an extensive presentation on the correlation between the Goals and corporate social responsibility, as well as a description of the remaining challenges to sustainable development throughout the world.

The head of the Antonio Meneghetti Faculty opened the debate by recalling that sustainability must begin with individuals who were themselves sustainable and responsible. Participants expressed the view that students must give back to society and therefore receive training on the challenges of attaining the Goals and the future sustainable development goals in their careers. Participants agreed that all segments of society must work together to help to achieve the post-2015 development agenda. A spirit of inclusion must prevail in teaching and training in order to build and replicate the valuable lessons learned. The ontopsychological pedagogical approach was considered an efficient tool to help to reach the United Nations goals and objectives.

The participants reached the following conclusions:

(a) Access to justice should be a new goal in the post-2015 development agenda;

(b) Academic institutions must promote the pedagogy of liberty, closely associated with responsibility;

(c) The academic curriculum should be articulated around the concept of meritocracy, in order to encourage women, minorities and young people to empower themselves and to ensure their inclusion within the post-2015 development agenda.
